

DADE COUNTY COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

JULY 2, 2009

1 MR. RUMLEY: All right. We'll go
2 ahead and start our meeting, call this meeting to
3 order. I appreciate everyone here tonight. It
4 looks like we kind of thinned some people out. It's
5 a beautiful out there today. At this time I'd like
6 to ask Robert to lead us in prayer and also do the
7 Pledge of Allegiance.

8 (Whereupon, the invocation and Pledge of
9 Allegiance were given.)

10 MR. RUMLEY: Thank you, Robert. This
11 is the regularly scheduled meeting of the Dade
12 County Commission which takes place at the same time
13 every first Thursday of every month. Proper notice
14 of this meeting was given in the legal organ of Dade
15 County and has been posted in the hallways of the
16 Administrative Building. At this time I need a roll
17 call. Mr. Lowery?

18 MR. LOWERY: Here.

19 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Cervelli?

20 MR. CERVELLI: Here.

21 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Pittman?

22 MR. PITTMAN: Here.

23 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Goff?

24 MR. GOFF: Here.

25 MR. RUMLEY: And I'm present. At

1 this time, I'd like for Don to go over the consent
2 agenda and after the reading of the agenda, if there
3 are no further questions, there will be a motion
4 approve.

5 MR. TOWNSEND: The consent agenda is
6 the minutes from the previous meeting minutes, the
7 Resolution, R33-09, change in calendar year to
8 fiscal year, which will be a first reading. That
9 will change our fiscal year to June 30th. And also
10 the Probation Collection Resolution, R34-09 with
11 Superior Court Clerk, Kathy Page.

12 MR. RUMLEY: Is that all you've got?

13 MR. TOWNSEND: Yes.

14 MR. RUMLEY: I need to read this.
15 The reading of the minutes of the previous month's
16 regular meeting will not be required since all
17 Commissioners have been furnished copies in
18 advanced. Not all that in advance, is it, Lamar?
19 We'll do better next time.

20 MR. LOWERY: I was just trying to
21 make sure he got all of it.

22 MR. RUMLEY: Yeah.

23 MR. LOWERY: Yeah. Okay. Yeah.

24 MR. RUMLEY: I'm going to talk with
25 Erin, you know, and if she can just e-mail us this

1 like the Friday before, that will give you all
2 weekend and then Monday through Wednesday to do --

3 MR. LOWERY: Well, I know Don said
4 something about saving paper.

5 MR. RUMLEY: Yeah.

6 MR. LOWERY: If he needs to -- is all
7 this on your computer too?

8 MR. TOWNSEND: Yeah. I can -- yeah.
9 I can e-mail it to you.

10 MR. LOWERY: Instead of giving me a
11 solid one, yeah, e-mail it to my kitepilot address
12 because I can't -- from my home I still can't get
13 into the computer.

14 MR. RUMLEY: The meetings -- the
15 minutes are public record, and they are available
16 for review in our office here in the administrative
17 building. The minutes are included in the consent
18 agenda. Approval of the consent agenda requires a
19 vote, which I am calling for right now.

20 MR. LOWERY: Is everything on this
21 consent agenda, Robin?

22 MR. ROGERS: Yes.

23 MR. LOWERY: I'll make a motion to
24 approve the consent agenda.

25 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. I've got a

1 motion. Do I hear a second?

2 MR. PITTMAN: I'll second.

3 MR. RUMLEY: We have a second. I'll
4 call a vote. Mr. Lowery?

5 MR. LOWERY: Yes.

6 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Cervelli?

7 MR. CERVELLI: Yes.

8 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Pittman?

9 MR. PITTMAN: Yes.

10 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Goff?

11 MR. GOFF: Yes.

12 MR. RUMLEY: And the Chair votes yes.

13 MR. TOWNSEND: Mr. Chairman, who
14 seconded the motion?

15 MR. LOWERY: It was Scottie.

16 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. Moving down to
17 the administrative, Number 2. We'll start with Mr.
18 Cervelli.

19 MR. CERVELLI: Thank you. Just a few
20 words on the budget, not much. I know people have
21 heard a lot about it. All right. Departments are
22 holding the line on the budget as it was set in
23 January. So they're leading up to what we expected
24 them to spend when we set the budget in January.
25 We've already talked about our revenue problems.

1 The lost revenue has been on the rebound a little
2 bit in the last month of June, which was a good
3 thing. We're still 11 percent down from what we
4 expected through the first six months of this year.
5 We spent \$110,000 in less than -- well, from the tax
6 revenue perspective. And that's 6 percent less than
7 last year. So you know, it came back up in June.
8 We're not out of the woods in terms of that. And
9 I'm sure that with our new budget site where we're
10 only working on a six-month budget for next year,
11 we're going to start that pretty soon.

12 On the roads, we asked -- there
13 were some reflector/fog issues out in the Head
14 River area, and the problems were taken care of in
15 Dade County. The remaining problems for our
16 school buses were really in the Walker County
17 portion of Old State Line Road and the state
18 highway on 157, and we lost a lot of reflectors
19 due to poor maintenance. We asked the G-DOT
20 commissioner when he planned to fix that problem
21 for the state highway, and he spoke to the folks
22 in Walker County and asked them to fix that
23 problem for their portion of Old State Line Road,
24 and I was out there yesterday, and I'm happy to
25 say the reflectors are down. And so when winter

1 comes around and we have those fog problems, folks
2 out in Head River, particularly our school bus
3 drivers, will have a little bit safer -- safer way
4 of getting back to the schools. We've also asked
5 the State to consider putting in some kind of
6 light so they know where the intersection is in
7 heavy fog. The school bus drivers, sometimes they
8 can even miss the intersection of those two roads.
9 I'm very pleased, and I want to thank Walker
10 County for doing that. They were very responsive
11 for the two problems there.

12 Regarding District 4, Billy
13 Massengale tells me all the right of ways have
14 been mowed. And so, if there's any safety problem
15 regarding line of sight, let us know. The next
16 mowing will take place at the earliest, maybe
17 mid-August. It depends on how much it rains. If
18 it's about average rain, it may be mid-August. If
19 it doesn't rain much, it will be much -- it will
20 be later than that. So as I said, it's a safety
21 issue. If you see a problem with the right of
22 ways, you can't see a turn, just let us know, and
23 we'll get that taken care of.

24 And the other thing on the --
25 regarding the Department of Transportation is

1 there's some question about our county barn,
2 whether they're going to move it out of our
3 county. We've talked to some other folks
4 who've -- we've talked to our -- our employee
5 member on the G-DOT board, and the last we heard
6 is the plans for that is it's going to stay here.
7 Ted is pretty vital in making that as well. I'm
8 hoping that they're in position. That's good
9 news.

10 The other thing of interest and
11 this may be a passing interest right now, we've
12 got some planning projections for the population
13 of our county over the next forty years. And it
14 was done as part of a water -- water planning.
15 And believe it or not they say that in forty years
16 Dade County will grow by 1600 people. I
17 personally find that hard to believe, but -- in
18 fact, our population will decrease in the middle
19 of that forty-year cycle. We're going to lose
20 people.

21 Thanks to Covenant College, Chuck
22 Newcomb (phonetic) and Dr. Jeff (inaudible). I
23 had asked for their assistance to help us validate
24 the model, and projections, that were being used.
25 Now, all this comes down to money eventually.

1 Population drives dollars. And that model may be
2 correct. I don't know. But we challenged it. We
3 were asking the college to give us some
4 statistical help. They've told us in terms of the
5 model the model seems in terms of its theory. But
6 the real question is what are some of the basic
7 assumptions. And they attacked it and then that
8 lost revenue coming to the community, et cetera,
9 et cetera. And so the County may not change very
10 much in the next forty years, and again it might.
11 But it came down to 16,063 people between now and
12 2050, I think it is.

13 Final thing here, I want to
14 congratulate West Brow Fire Station for their
15 ground breaking. That's a good thing. I know
16 they're still fundraising. So if anybody wants to
17 write a check, they'll be happy to take that as
18 well. So congratulations to those fellows.

19 And the other safety item is a new
20 fire hydrant now in the Piney Community on
21 Williams Road. So that will help improve the fire
22 service in that community.

23 And lastly, the 4th of July in New
24 Salem. Everybody knows about it. It has
25 fireworks, bar-b-cue, music. So if you can, come

1 out to New Salem for the 4th of July. And
2 everybody have a happy and safe 4th of July.

3 MR. RUMLEY: The reason Peter's
4 picture's not in the paper there at the ground
5 breaking, he was back on the dozer in the back, you
6 know. No. He was taking care of some business and
7 didn't quite make it that morning.

8 MR. CERVELLI: I was invited.

9 MR. RUMLEY: You were. You were
10 invited. Anyway. Brother Goff?

11 MR. GOFF: Did he leave me any time?

12 MR. RUMLEY: I know.

13 MR. GOFF: He always takes
14 everything.

15 MR. RUMLEY: I'm going to start
16 calling him last.

17 MR. GOFF: Peter and I were not here
18 at the last meeting. We were at some training in
19 Jekyll Island, but before that -- prior to that I
20 got a call from someone -- or I stopped by and made
21 a visit to someone in my district, which I try to do
22 occasionally. I know I can't visit everyone. But
23 we had an illegal dump, which I'm sure in the county
24 we have several of them, but out on the south side
25 of creek all over 136 that goes up the creek and

1 comes back out at the foot of the mountain, there's
2 been a dump there for some time, and we were able to
3 get that cleaned up and hopefully if there are
4 others that we can get to that are on the right of
5 way, we'll be able to get some more of those. If
6 you know of one, we'll try to do it. Because one
7 thing that Peter mentioned was the mowing, and there
8 are some concerns about the amount of mowing or the
9 number of swipes that we're taking with the mowers.
10 We're doing everything we can out there like
11 everyone else to save jobs yet and still have to cut
12 the budget. And I think everybody could look at
13 I-59 or even State Highways 11, 136, and we're doing
14 probably as much or more than the State's doing
15 right now on mowing because it's a big issue and is
16 consumed with that making those times we can -- that
17 Billy can get his people out and do some of this. I
18 took a run through the south district just the other
19 day just to see -- sometimes people is saying there
20 is trashy roads and a lot of trash on the road. I
21 found them to be in pretty good shape, but that's
22 not to say that you don't know a place where there
23 is. But if someone -- and it doesn't matter whether
24 you're in my district or not, if there's a place
25 where somebody's throwing out trash, I'd be glad to

1 know it because we'll do our best to get it cleaned
2 up.

3 As far as the recreation
4 department, you've been south and by the soccer
5 fields, the walls, the floors, the inside is ready
6 for plumbing on the bathrooms at the soccer
7 fields. Yesterday they worked getting the holes
8 drilled under the pavement to run the plumbing,
9 the sewer, the electric, and we'll be set up
10 pretty soon. And that is something that has been
11 much needed and there's a lot of cost. Just in
12 case somebody's wondering how do we justify that,
13 we have to have some type of facilities there and
14 we've had the port-a-toilets for quite a while on
15 that side. So not -- hopefully very soon we're
16 able to get rid of them. And they have been
17 sitting there free to the county, but we'll have
18 something we can be proud of when the soccer
19 season, the rec league football starts up. So
20 we're kind of watching that. Right now it's
21 looking good. If you haven't been down, go by and
22 see what they're doing.

23 The senior citizens, and I won't
24 say a lot about this, but you probably read it in
25 the paper, it was in the Chattanooga paper, I

1 think, that stimulus money was headed to Dade
2 County. So it's my understanding that they get a
3 grant from the stimulus money to replace some of
4 their vans and some more stuff that they're doing
5 there. So a little positive came out of that.

6 The last thing I'll mention is
7 something that some of you, especially if you live
8 on the creek, the -- FEMA came in about a year
9 ago, a year and a half ago, and did a whole new
10 floodplain mapping to Dade County. And several
11 people are now beginning to get from their
12 mortgage holders that they have to have flood
13 insurance. I can't tell you a lot about that, but
14 if you're one of those people or somebody, I'll be
15 glad to listen and tell them all that I do know
16 about it, but that all came from the 100-year
17 flood map plain that was done by FEMA. And it did
18 take in a lot more area than probably people
19 thought that was flood prone, not only on the
20 creek, but -- or Lookout Creek itself, but on some
21 of the little creeks that feed Lookout off the
22 mountains. So if you get some of that or you have
23 somebody that would be interested in hearing what
24 we do know about it, then be sure to have them
25 give me a call or come by here. I'm here most

1 everyday at some point or I'd be glad to meet them
2 here because that's going to be an issue I think
3 for a lot of people, and we want to help as much
4 as we can with the information. Thank you for
5 being here.

6 MR. RUMLEY: Thank you, Robert. That
7 is -- it's really a serious thing, and when your
8 house is up on a hill way out of the floodplain, you
9 know, it can be a (inaudible). Also the stimulus
10 money that you mentioned for the vans, when the
11 paper came out and announced that, I knew that it
12 was coming down the funnel, but we had not been
13 notified. So they read it in the paper before we
14 actually got official notification really that that
15 was happening. So that morning after, you know, the
16 paper came out, I said, do you know something that
17 we don't? Well, we had no okay. But we were -- so,
18 you know, it's odd that the want -- that the
19 stimulus money's coming down, but a lot times it's
20 strange how the government -- our end of it finds
21 out about it just through the paper, but --

22 And Robert's really been keeping an
23 eye on our -- as he said, on our facility, our
24 toilet facility down at the park, and there's
25 rumor that he wanted to have a plaque put up, the

1 Robert Goff Memorial over the it. But I mean,
2 we're all proud that this is happening. It is an
3 important thing and we appreciate Robert keeping
4 an eye on it for us. We're going to open it with
5 a bar-b-cue. Scottie? Your turn, Scottie.

6 MR. PITTMAN: All right. I'm not
7 going to use my five allotted minutes.

8 MR. RUMLEY: We'll give -- you're --
9 we'll give you 30 minutes.

10 MR. PITTMAN: These two on the end
11 compete to see which one can talk the longest. On
12 the Sand Mountain district --

13 MR. RUMLEY: I don't think you mic's
14 on.

15 MR. PITTMAN: Yeah it's on.

16 MR. RUMLEY: Okay.

17 MR. PITTMAN: You've just got me
18 turned down. On the mountain we've got the county
19 crew out doing the ditches, they're cleaning out.
20 They've probably got about half or three quarters of
21 the way done, so hopefully they'll be done with that
22 in the next few weeks and we'll get the mowers out.
23 I guess that's pretty much it on Sand Mountain.

24 Now, as for the transfer station,
25 I've usually got the least interesting report, but

1 this week the transfer station is pretty
2 interesting. We had a guy break out of jail and
3 made his way down to the transfer station and took
4 one of our vehicles. We did get it back and got
5 the gate fixed. So everything's -- everything's
6 back to normal. As for the holiday, most of the
7 county will be closed tomorrow, but the transfer
8 station will be in operation tomorrow. They'll
9 take Saturday, the 4th, off. So if you want to
10 get rid of your trash, you'd better take care of
11 it tomorrow.

12 And that's all I've got. Robert,
13 Peter, you-all got anything you-all want to add?

14 MR. RUMLEY: You've got four minutes
15 left.

16 MR. PITTMAN: I'm done.

17 MR. RUMLEY: Thank you, Scottie.
18 Lamar?

19 MR. LOWERY: By the time it gets to
20 me, Scottie's already threatened me to keep it
21 short. Now, that's the way it usually gets to. But
22 I had had some trouble with my right of way, some of
23 the mowing. Some of the people felt like it wasn't
24 on some of the curves, and I would like to thank
25 Billy and them for coming and taking care of that

1 for me. They did do a good job. They all did a
2 good job. They're short handed. We all know that.
3 We're all working short handed. I got a little --
4 not upset, but I was kind of concerned about not
5 getting my book on time, and I got -- Don, I hope
6 you didn't take that the wrong way. I know our
7 staff's working short in the office too. And we'll
8 figure out a way. Ted's done told me. We'll figure
9 out a way of getting that in and getting everybody
10 -- but I do appreciate our office staff. They're
11 stepping up to the bat because we're one person
12 short back there. I mean, you can call the office
13 number back here and you're liable to get any of
14 these guys including Ted. So they're all doing a
15 good job. I've got ball fields wrote down on here
16 since I'm on the buildings, but Robert's done took
17 that one over. So that's okay. That's his topic
18 and that will be okay. But I know Billy and them's
19 been working --

20 MR. RUMLEY: One thing, and I meant
21 to tell you this. This is something that -- I mean,
22 I guess it's not a big issue, but it worked out very
23 good as far as money goes. That vehicle that they
24 used down at the -- pick up the garbage called a
25 gator. That thing was about worn out, and we have a

1 mower down there that actually was --

2 MR. LOWERY: Yeah.

3 MR. RUMLEY: -- about I think three
4 years ago. And it didn't work out, you know. Anyway
5 rather than purchase a -- you know, totally purchase
6 a new one, John Deere -- we bid it out and John
7 Deere did give a trade in on that mower and we're
8 going to wind up putting about a thousand dollars
9 with that to have a new gator. I meant to -- sorry
10 I didn't tell you that, but -- in case you see a
11 new -- in case you see a new gator there, it's not
12 that we went and splurged and bought it. And I
13 think we can get probably at least a \$1,000, \$1500
14 maybe out of the mower. So we'll probably come out
15 to the good.

16 MR. LOWERY: I think Billy had told
17 me something about they had damaged the radiator on
18 that mower. Was that the one you was telling me
19 about?

20 MR. MASSENGALE: No. The radiator
21 tore up on the real mower.

22 MR. LOWERY: Okay. Anyway, let's
23 see. The courthouse building is well underway. I
24 believe I seen it in the paper this week. We're
25 advertising for bids to people to come in and start

1 getting their -- their work. We have a few people
2 that don't understand why we're building a
3 courthouse in the situation we're in money wise.
4 That's been voted on twice by the people of this
5 county, two different S.P.L.O.S.T.s. The money's
6 bonded. The S.P.L.O.S.T. passed by the highest it's
7 ever passed in county history. And that's probably
8 because of the animal shelter, right?

9 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I hope so.

10 MR. LOWERY: So we'll put in a plug
11 for that too while we're here. But I did notice too
12 on the senior -- we were talking about the senior
13 building and the stimulus money. I did notice in
14 that same article too they were talking about adding
15 more employees with this money, and that's something
16 we're all going to have to be careful with. This
17 stimulus money can be dangerous because it's there
18 for a little and then it's gone. Seniors are in
19 great danger. We've all agreed the senior citizens
20 need it. It's a great thing, but you can go poor --
21 you can be poor from a lot of things that are good
22 things. I'd like to have like a big Escalade out
23 there in my driveway, but I can't afford it, and you
24 have to know what you can and what you can't.
25 That's it for me.

1 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. Thank you, Lamar.
2 That's something -- you touched on there, talking
3 about the stimulus. You've got to really watch.
4 You know, we've actually applied for several grants.
5 Hopefully we'll get them. I'd be satisfied if we
6 got 50 percent of them, but there's a lot of
7 loopholes and a lot of things you've got to watch
8 when you go into the stimulus plan because you can
9 obligate the county, not just for labor, but for
10 things, regulations and stipulations that we
11 actually -- and that's one reason you've got to
12 really stay away from some of them. You don't want
13 it in a rural county. It may be fine for Atlanta
14 and it may be fine for some of your metro counties,
15 but anyway, I wanted to add that.

16 It's been a busy month. It's been
17 hot, very hot. We've had -- not only outside, but
18 in the office too. I've had a lot of people, lot
19 of traffic in and out, concerned people about the
20 taxes, about their revals, and then about actually
21 the freeze that the Governor had actually came in
22 and -- just a tremendous amount of questions
23 about -- the assessor's office been working with
24 me quite a bit because they -- they go down and
25 they don't -- if they don't get the answers that

1 they feel they should, they come to my office and
2 so I've just been calling kind of a little
3 three-way meeting and you people out there, you
4 know who I'm talking about. I've been averaging
5 three to four people a day, and most of them it
6 was with tax concerns and I don't blame them.
7 I've got a concern of my own. I appealed some of
8 my properties. So we're here for you, and I'm not
9 saying this tonight to shy you away. That's makes
10 me feel good. That door's always open and when
11 you come in there, I may not can answer your
12 question right then, but we'll find somebody that
13 can.

14 The budget, we've been -- this
15 month we're getting ready to -- the week after the
16 4th, which will be next week, we've notified all
17 our public officials, and from what I gather
18 today, they're ready to get started on this. We
19 are going to be on time this year as far as our
20 requirement of the State to get our budget in.
21 We're going to go about it in the sequence of the
22 budget and then we'll set the millage rate. The
23 millage rate we've talked about. This is
24 unofficial, but at the last meeting I don't know
25 that a commission here that was voting about the

1 millage increase. Whatever we've got to do, we're
2 going to keep our millage rate the same. I wish
3 we could lower it two or three mills, but that's
4 not going to happen this year. But the point of
5 it is, like Lamar said, we worked -- Hugh Blevins
6 and myself put a lot of time into this getting
7 prepared to go out for bid and we feel real good
8 about this. It was actually posted in the paper.
9 Isn't that right, Don? I guess it went in.

10 MR. TOWNSEND: Yes.

11 MR. RUMLEY: And we've got to run it
12 until the -- well, the 28th I think's the bid
13 opening, and we will have a pre-bid meeting
14 somewhere around the 12th. That's a big move. Once
15 we have this come in, you're going to really see the
16 building go up quickly, so. The type building it
17 is, you know, it a month's time you're going to
18 really be able to see a lot of change in that.

19 I've got the restroom down here.

20 It seems like we talked about that today. We're
21 proud. And I know there's a lot of children. You
22 know, you don't think it's a big issue, but when
23 you've got a little fellow that's got to walk from
24 here to Brock's Restaurant -- well, further than
25 that -- just to go to the bathroom, it's a big

1 deal especially when you've got a couple hundred
2 kids and the parents too. So I think it is a big
3 deal.

4 MR. LOWERY: I was fixing to say,
5 have you ever tried to hold your breath until you
6 get through --

7 MR. RUMLEY: I -- at least for the
8 older people if their plumbing's not working like it
9 did. All right. But the jail, the incident we had
10 last night, that was a bad thing that the --

11 MR. LOWERY: I --

12 MR. RUMLEY: Well, what I'm getting
13 at is the expense that it's going to cost us.

14 MR. LOWERY: Oh, yeah.

15 MR. RUMLEY: The truck's fine, but I
16 spent -- I spent about 30 minutes over there after
17 we found out with the sheriff this evening. We got
18 up in the attic part and, of course, he's having to
19 keep the prisoners away from this area because it
20 was a flaw design in that building when it was built
21 as a jail, and I said we've got to -- immediately
22 we've got to get in this thing and we've got to
23 actually -- not repair it. We've got to restructure
24 some of this area overhead and so now there's -- I
25 mean, there's no danger now because the guy actually

1 -- it will cost us some money.

2 MR. LOWERY: It's going to be a lot
3 of money.

4 MR. RUMLEY: Yes, that's what I'm
5 getting at. But it -- I don't know the cost for it
6 yet, but I'm just glad that when the boy stole the
7 truck there wasn't anyone hurt, there wasn't any of
8 the deputies that were hurt. He could have ran over
9 someone with our vehicle and killed them. It's just
10 a good thing.

11 MR. LOWERY: Has he been apprehended
12 yet?

13 MR. RUMLEY: No, I don't think he
14 has. I would like to add with all -- this month,
15 we've had a good month. We've had a lot of issues.
16 Peter and Brother Goff here, they went to the
17 training and came back. We've had to all work
18 together on several little things, and some large
19 things, and I'm proud of my commissioners as I say.
20 So far I've said it at every meeting, and if I've
21 not, I'll tell you. You know, I mean, I'll just
22 tell you that I'm really proud. I'm proud to be
23 here and proud to have these men here. You know,
24 they can call us the good old boys, whatever they
25 want to call us. I don't really care what it is.

1 As long as this thing's working and we're doing our
2 job, you know. I mean --

3 MR. CERVELLI: I've never been a good
4 old boy.

5 MR. RUMLEY: Well, I know.

6 MR. CERVELLI: It feels good.

7 MR. RUMLEY: You'll be disowned the
8 next time you go home. It's something that I've --
9 it's just something -- we're doing the best we can
10 do with what we've got to deal with, and I just want
11 you-all to know, you know, that we're trying to get
12 serious with your money. If you ever doubt that,
13 and I stress this, that door is open down there. My
14 phone, I answer my phone. Diane will relate to
15 that. I don't care if it's 3:00 in the morning.
16 And I think every one of these commissioners right
17 here is the same way. Scottie, you know, you-all
18 got jobs and you can't answer. But what I'm saying
19 is if you've got problems, you can call me. If it's
20 pertaining to Scottie's district, or Peter's, or
21 whatever, we will take care of it. We will -- you
22 know -- but just want you to know that we're here
23 for you. Let's get on with the meeting.

24 Do we have a representative from the
25 City here tonight? Everything must be going

1 pretty smooth in the City. Daryl, you wouldn't
2 want to come up and talk and tell us?

3 MR. GADDIS: I don't have any --

4 MR. RUMLEY: How are you?

5 MR. GADDIS: Fine.

6 MR. RUMLEY: Good to see Daryl Gaddis
7 here tonight. Good to see you. Daryl's got a
8 pretty good property going across -- I keep up with
9 him every day over across the street. Melvin
10 Blevins' old garage there, he's really making a
11 great improvement on that, and he's doing a
12 fantastic job of developing it. I don't know
13 whether it's going to apartments or offices, but
14 that's the kind -- it's going to be good to look out
15 the window and see something besides the old
16 building there.

17 What about Industrial Development
18 Authority? That's Fred and Fred's not here
19 tonight. Lionel? Representing the Chamber. Do
20 you have anything you want to add? I've got a
21 five-page report here, but I don't know that we've
22 got time -- well, actually it's more than that.
23 Do you want to just kind of touch it, or you
24 know --

25 MR. AUSTIN: Debbie was going to go

1 over that as she did our report.

2 MR. RUMLEY: That's fine. That's
3 fine. Debbie, if you can -- all right.

4 MS. TINKER: I'm going to read every
5 bit of it.

6 MR. RUMLEY: All right. Go ahead and
7 give the report.

8 MS. TINKER: Thank you-all for
9 letting me speak. And I've left copies of what
10 we've been doing for the past two or three months --
11 in the back or handed them to you one. But I want
12 to say the upcoming months from the notification
13 from the State that our letter of intent and
14 application has been accepted and the Chamber will
15 continue their efforts in working with the -- by
16 leading the county team in the accelerated work
17 ready initiative to receive the county's
18 designation.

19 The Chamber is also continuing its
20 effort with Project Synergy for our business
21 community education and program. Georgia Power,
22 TVA, and Covenant College will be working in
23 collaborative to educate our students on
24 entrepreneurship and real workplace initiative and
25 ethics. Through our efforts we've been selected

1 to present at the 2011 Georgia Designated
2 Entrepreneur Friendly Community Summit as the
3 designated Entrepreneur Friendly Best Practices in
4 Youth Entrepreneurship. This summit will be held
5 in Milledgeville and it is statewide.

6 The Chamber's economic committee is
7 researching and reaching out to big business
8 prospects, available properties while continuing
9 to work with existing businesses and
10 entrepreneurs.

11 The Chamber is in the process of
12 updating our Website to include business and the
13 industrial sites, and also buildings for sale or
14 lease. The Chamber will be continuing to bring
15 tourism into our county as a regional (inaudible)
16 to the State -- the welcome center this year and
17 is the Georgia contact for the World's Longest
18 Yard Sale that will be August the 6th through the
19 9th. Last year over 265,000 people visited
20 Cloudland Canyon State Park. Any of those
21 visitors go to our Website and we mark it through
22 there. We mark it from the State's Website. They
23 can go to (inaudible) looking for an event, and
24 for tourist attractions, accommodations,
25 restaurants. We also participate in many

1 organizations, such as Northwest Georgia to
2 Support High Country, and Lookout Mountain Parkway
3 Association.

4 The Chamber will be helping other
5 organizations with their upcoming events this fall
6 and hosting their annual golf tournament this
7 September. Plans are being made for a two-day
8 event to include youth teams from the surrounding
9 counties.

10 Somewhat on a different note, the
11 Chamber board, made of 15 board members, and along
12 with the staff, put in numerous volunteer hours
13 each week. Committees have been formed and we
14 would like to invite anyone who would like to what
15 we maybe get out and work for the betterment of
16 the community to call us. We would love for you
17 to serve on one of these committees or help us do
18 any of the activities we do. If you would like to
19 volunteer with another organization, you can
20 contact us on that too. We'll give you their
21 information. I've done that twice this week. And
22 if there's anyone on this commission has any
23 suggestions, we welcome new ideas for the
24 betterment of Dade County. Thank you.

25 MR. RUMLEY: Thank you. Any of you

1 got any questions for our Chamber representative?

2 MR. CERVELLI: I just want to say I
3 was up in the northeast last week, and was in
4 Pennsylvania, and they were concerned for workforce
5 development, and so it's clearly on everybody's mind
6 to improve, you're building, pertaining to the
7 workforces, and so we're glad that you're leading
8 that here in our county.

9 MS. TINKER: I have been checking
10 with them. I called today, and Ms. McCall
11 (phonetic) was out of the office, to see if our
12 application has been accepted. After we all met, I
13 did have to go back and add more things to it when I
14 sent it in because we missed and add a name of state
15 representatives. So they've got the applications at
16 this point in time.

17 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. Thank you. Okay,
18 Don, you have the floor now. Mr. Don Townsend.

19 MR. TOWNSEND: All right. Today is
20 the second day of the month so that's a very good
21 point for the financial statement committee. So
22 that's us closing everything today. So basically we
23 end today, and that's all we don't have it on this.
24 All right. The General Fund has a current balance
25 of \$727,388, the Federal Asset Fund, \$1,307.

1 MR. RUMLEY: Hang on just a minute,
2 Don. Can everybody hear? He needs to talk a little
3 louder?

4 MR. TOWNSEND: All right. The
5 Federal Asset Fund, \$1,307; Special Sheriff's Fund,
6 \$11,441; Drug Abuse Education Fund, \$16,389;
7 Supplemental Juvenile Services Fund, \$13,518; Victim
8 Assistance Fund, \$3,644; Jail Fund, \$31,132; Federal
9 Assets Fund (Department of Justice), \$2,253; Payroll
10 Account, \$184,080.

11 And the old S.P.L.O.S.T., which now
12 is technically called the old S.P.L.O.S.T.,
13 because it expired Tuesday, June the 30th. And
14 the new one actually we began collections in Dade
15 County on July the 1st, yesterday. So the 2004
16 S.P.L.O.S.T., you can see there represented, Total
17 Capital -- let's see. P & I Fund Balance,
18 \$2,275,263. That sounds like a lot, but 1.8
19 million has to come out of that for our final
20 payment for the bond. And then remaining for the
21 courthouse on the old S.P.L.O.S.T. is \$440,405.

22 And those funds are being expensed rather quickly.

23 2009 S.P.L.O.S.T. funds, you see it
24 in the shaded area, we don't have any Projects
25 Account funds as of yet. The first funds being

1 collected at the merchant level as of July 1st we
2 will see come into Dade County's accounts probably
3 during the month of September. They run about two
4 months behind, and the Department of Revenue
5 changed their collection period ending the 20th
6 day of each month to the last day of the month,
7 and that's a little bit tricky for some merchants
8 in town.

9 Some merchants have reported to us
10 that the State is actually reflecting a credit
11 balance to them, and we're going to check into
12 that, but what that means is the State receives
13 their 4 percent, but the 3 percent, which is the
14 school board and our local option sales tax and
15 then our S.P.L.O.S.T., those three things --

16 I've had one merchant tell me that
17 they backed into the number through accounting and
18 the numbers matched rather closely, but the State
19 is telling them they actually have a credit
20 balance and the reality is they don't have a
21 credit balance. It's the local sales tax, and
22 that's not a good thing, but the State's telling
23 them that for the year. So we've got to get that
24 clarified and checked into. The State has made
25 several changes in their collection and things

1 like that just in the last 30 -- after 60 days and
2 they continue to make new changes.

3 In the Proceeds Account, we have
4 \$164. Again, those monies we'll see more of it
5 coming in in the near future around September.

6 Construction Account, we had
7 \$1,987,211. Those are bonded funds available
8 primarily for the courthouse. We consider it
9 county property. That's primarily for the
10 construction of the new court facility.

11 And that's all the available
12 S.P.L.O.S.T. funds at this period including
13 investments funds. It's \$2,570,423.

14 Fire Departments, you see New
15 Salem, South Dade, and Trenton under the new
16 S.P.L.O.S.T.. They're not expensing anything.
17 However, their trucks, I understand, are being
18 delivered any day now. I think they may have
19 already received them. Those monies will be
20 expensed as the money comes into the County.
21 Whereas, they were approved for \$250,000.

22 The one below is Davis, New Home,
23 North Dade, and West Brow. They chose to bond
24 their funds, and at the current time the balance
25 of that for Davis is \$4,847; New Home, \$3,781;

1 North Dade, \$155,618; and West Brow, \$109,150.

2 For a total of \$1,023,396 available in

3 S.P.L.O.S.T. funds.

4 The next page is the Active
5 Certificate or Actual Investments at the top of
6 the page for a total of \$781,048; and you'll be
7 getting at the bottom of the page the Redeemed
8 ones.

9 Looking at the General Funds
10 Revenues and Balance Sheet on a single page at the
11 top, and this is Page 4, Income Statement at the
12 top. As of June 30th the actuals for the month
13 collected was \$564,492 in Revenues, which puts us
14 at 50 -- for the year-to-date, puts us at 50.49
15 percent. With half of the year gone, of course,
16 that's 50 percent. So revenues are up half a
17 point for the year. And that's overall based on
18 budgeted amounts and S.P.L.O.S.T. -- local option
19 sales tax, that's S.P.L.O.S.T. that was, as Mr.
20 Cervelli noted, continues to be down at this point
21 by out 11 percent.

22 At the bottom you see the expense
23 side. And we have budgeted \$723,267, but we only
24 spent for the month of June, \$603,146. For the
25 year-to-date expenses \$3 million -- about 3.8

1 million, but we budgeted for the year-to-date 4.1.
2 So again, expenses continue to be in check. There
3 are a few departments that we've talked about the
4 last couple of days that are showing a couple of
5 line items right at a hundred plus percent, and
6 it's on June 30th. So, those are being worked on.

7 MR. CERVELLI: Well, Don, let me just
8 comment on that. The revenue we came in at 50
9 percent and we're at 50 percent of the year. That's
10 a little misleading because there are some items
11 under this revenue that have achieved 71 percent of
12 their income that are revenue. So particularly
13 property tax. So that skews the results
14 dramatically and that's why it still looks like
15 we're doing great at 50 percent at half the year.
16 In fact some of the lines are way -- the property
17 taxes are 71 percent of collection.

18 MR. TOWNSEND: That's right. The
19 next page is the Variance Report I've prepared. And
20 it shows each line of revenues and expenses broken
21 down. I don't usually go over this, but on Page 3
22 you'll see a couple of things interesting, and that
23 is under gasoline for the year we have expensed on
24 it -- well, for the month \$13,496. For the year
25 actual is, it's still a lot of money, \$63,699, But

1 we had budgeted \$128,000. So you see we are under
2 budget by \$64,200. And that's just one example of
3 what -- you know, we had budgeted more for gas
4 during the time when gasoline was three and four
5 dollars a gallon, but it went down a little bit. I
6 know it's up right now. It was still down from what
7 we anticipated. So those kind of things are going
8 to give a little bit of --

9 Insurance, other than employee, we
10 see there. That is basically insurance on the
11 buildings that came to you during the month of
12 June for the next year. And we've paid \$111,794.
13 Budgeted a \$119. There was a bit of savings there
14 of \$8,205. Two things that are factored into that
15 number are Dade County is a drug free work place,
16 which employees have to go through random drug
17 testing in Dade, and also our safety discount.
18 Our road department, specifically -- let's see.
19 The road department -- who else, Billy --
20 sanitation, several different departments, not
21 just under Billy, but several others that have to
22 perform on different educational things,
23 certifications a year and our employees have been
24 known to do that. So I want to point that out
25 that again we budgeted the standard this year and

1 that has saved the county a little over \$8,000.

2 The building insurance continues to go up. So
3 that's a good thing that in this case these two --
4 that's just a couple of things that cause that
5 number to be reduced.

6 We also are participating with ACCG
7 for insurance. And they do pay us a bit of a
8 dividend as well -- based on the business and
9 things.

10 Landfill figures for the month,
11 \$8,933 was the actual there. A little bit from
12 what was budgeted, but there's a bit of
13 seasonality in that number.

14 If you go to the very back of this
15 section, the section under Tab 1, you'll see the
16 Local Option Sales Tax Revenue Report. For the
17 month of June it was -- let's see. This is local
18 option, one sixty-one, one oh eight. Last month
19 was one fifty-seven. And for April was one
20 fourteen. The trend is up, but you've got to
21 remember that over a four-period the trend it is
22 still down from what it was just a few years ago.
23 And if you look over on Page 6, the very top line
24 of that is something that is called Year-to-Year,
25 January through June. 2003, January to June, we

1 collected \$886,000; 2004, 954,000; 2005, 1 million
2 44; 2006, 1.26 million; but then in 2007 1.1
3 million; then in 2008, 1.1 million again; and 2009
4 it is a little over a million. So that's what
5 we're saying the trend is actually. It appears on
6 a monthly you'll see -- it looks like it's going
7 up. But over a four-period year, it continues to
8 be down a little bit.

9 Five pages back are the old 2004
10 S.P.L.O.S.T. tracking worksheets followed by
11 Capital Bond. As you see that's, you know,
12 several checks written. I think all of them are
13 pertaining to the courthouse -- the court facility
14 construction. And following that, you'll see on
15 Page 5, 2009's tracking that we're working on.
16 That's the new S.P.L.O.S.T.. So, it could be
17 worse, it could be better.

18 MR. RUMLEY: Any questions for Don?

19 MR. LOWERY: Let's go back to the
20 S.P.L.O.S.T. Go back to the S.P.L.O.S.T. fund. You
21 said that we run out Tuesday, June 30th, and we
22 won't see none -- well, is that right, June 30th?

23 MR. TOWNSEND: Right. June 30th
24 ended the election period at the merchant level in
25 Dade County for the old S.P.L.O.S.T. Of course,

1 yesterday started the new collection. Dade County
2 -- we have -- ended one in that period for the tax
3 month, 7 percent, 6 percent. It just stays at 7
4 percent. So that's a good thing. Because when
5 merchants change their cash registers, it's always
6 hard to get that thing back up and we tend to lose
7 money.

8 MR. LOWERY: But you said we wouldn't
9 see this new money into our account until September.
10 Now, there's a three-month period there that we
11 should start seeing some next month or either the --

12 MR. TOWNSEND: Well, we'll continue
13 to receive money from the current S.P.L.O.S.T. for
14 the next two months. So --

15 MR. LOWERY: They're behind?

16 MR. TOWNSEND: They're all expensed.

17 MR. LOWERY: Yeah, I know that.

18 MR. TOWNSEND: And now we're not
19 quite sure with the change at the Department of
20 Revenue. It could be truly a third month. The
21 Department of Revenue tends to hold on to the monies
22 for us. They're confident I'm sure on getting that
23 interest that we would obtain. But they -- for
24 instance this month what we've received at the end
25 of June is actually April. That's where people went

1 shopping in Dade County, bought gasoline, whatever.
2 The money that you pay in taxes in April, we're just
3 now getting in at the end of June.

4 MR. LOWERY: My question was though,
5 that gap, the way the S.P.L.O.S.T. reads started in
6 September again, right?

7 MR. TOWNSEND: It started yesterday,
8 but we'll continue to get a check on the end of July
9 and the end of August, which represents the old
10 money that goes into the old 2004 S.P.L.O.S.T.
11 funds. The new money that is collected will not go
12 into the new fund until September.

13 MR. LOWERY: The reason I'm asking
14 is, is my point was that two- or three-month gap
15 there between the old and the new one, if that's the
16 way it was worded in the S.P.L.O.S.T. is it started
17 in September or did it say immediately following the
18 other one?

19 MR. TOWNSEND: Immediately following.
20 It started yesterday.

21 MR. LOWERY: Because our last
22 S.P.L.O.S.T. -- or one of our S.P.L.O.S.T.s, you
23 know, they finished up, there was that two- or
24 three-month period that we were allowed to use that
25 money to offset the budget, and that's why my

1 question is this time can we do that with that two
2 or three months since we're in the shape that we're
3 in/

4 MR. ROGERS: Yeah the --

5 MR. RUMLEY: It can only -- in excess
6 of that amount anything that's not --

7 MR. LOWERY: Yeah, that's --

8 MR. RUMLEY: Because we did this --

9 MR. LOWERY: You were the chairman
10 then.

11 MR. RUMLEY: I was chairman then.
12 And you can if that -- if you meet the goal and it
13 is -- if it's -- if it's \$10 you don't owe them. Am
14 I am telling it right?

15 MR. LOWERY: Yeah.

16 MR. ROGERS: If we collected the
17 amount of money that we had in the other on. That's
18 my recollection. I'll check to be sure about that.

19 MR. LOWERY: But we actually are
20 under though, right, Don?

21 MR. TOWNSEND: Yeah, because the last
22 24 months we've been down. If we had of been up, we
23 probably wouldn't collected up.

24 MR. LOWERY: So these next two months
25 will go under the old one or the new one?

1 MR. TOWNSEND: Old one.

2 MR. CERVELLI: Don, when does the new
3 computer system -- do you have any idea when it will
4 be available to see it online what our collections
5 are?

6 MR. TOWNSEND: It's supposed to be up
7 now, but I got on it Monday and it still had May's
8 figures up there. For information, I know Robert
9 knows this, this system will allow -- you never know
10 when you're going to get your check whether
11 you're -- that check's been collected or not,
12 whether there was some money they took out that they
13 shouldn't have taken out in previous months, or
14 money they put in that they owed you from previous
15 months. That's in the system that will tell you
16 precisely how much it was in as a result of the
17 correction or how much was taken out as a result of
18 a correction. And theoretically it's supposed to
19 speed up how fast we get our cash.

20 MR. RUMLEY: Right. But --

21 MR. TOWNSEND: Under Tab 15 you'll
22 see I included that information for you showing
23 where the old ended and the new began. And we see
24 that the Department of Revenue provides a Website
25 <https://www.etax.eor.ga.gov/qtd/mis//index.aspx>.

1 Now, I know no one really got that, but I'll be more
2 than happy to -- you can take it home. It's public
3 record. It shows different counties in the state
4 for school board, local options, special merchants,
5 whatever.

6 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. Any more
7 questions for Don? I appreciate your report, Don.
8 At this time I will have a motion to approve the
9 financial statement. Do I hear a motion?

10 MR. CERVELLI: Make a motion.

11 MR. RUMLEY: Have a motion. Do I
12 have a second?

13 MR. GOFF: I'll second.

14 MR. RUMLEY: I have a second. I'll
15 call the roll. Mr. Lowery?

16 MR. LOWERY: Yes.

17 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Cervelli?

18 MR. CERVELLI: Yes.

19 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Pittman?

20 MR. PITTMAN: Yes.

21 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Goff?

22 MR. GOFF: Yes.

23 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Rumley votes yes.
24 Okay. Robin, do you have anything that you need to
25 go over with us tonight?

1 MR. ROGERS: There are no new legal
2 matters. The only thing to report is that the
3 litigation brought by Rex Blevins and Christina
4 Holmes is set for hearing on August 27th in Superior
5 Court.

6 MR. RUMLEY: You-all hear that?
7 August the 27th is the hearing pertaining to the
8 lawsuit that Mr. Blevins and Christina Holmes has
9 brought against the --

10 MR. LOWERY: What time?

11 MR. ROGERS: 9:00.

12 MR. LOWERY: 9:00. Okay.

13 MR. RUMLEY: At nine?

14 MR. ROGERS: Yes.

15 MR. RUMLEY: So maybe we can get this
16 thing resolved because we've spent -- the County the
17 past four years -- we're still spending money on our
18 legal counsel. So hopefully we can --

19 MR. CERVELLI: Is this likely to
20 resolve it or are we likely to go into more delays?

21 MR. ROGERS: Well, it will resolve at
22 this level, Superior Court. If either party were
23 to --

24 MR. CERVELLI: So it will be --

25 MR. RUMLEY: They could take it

1 actually to Federal Court. That's good news. I
2 don't think there's any unfinished business. New
3 business, we've taken care of that. At this time
4 any of you that wants to come up and talk to us,
5 concerns, you've got five minutes. I can give you
6 more if you need it, but try to keep it to five
7 minutes. Feel free to come on up and -- at the mic
8 -- anybody that wants to talk to us tonight. If
9 not, I appreciate all you being here tonight. I
10 hope you have a good 4th of July, a safe 4th of
11 July. As Peter was telling you, we're having a
12 fireworks out on New Salem. It's one of the top
13 three in this area. Of course, if you've never been
14 there, you've really missed a treat. I think the
15 bar-b-cue starts at 12:00 and go on into the
16 evening.

17 Also, we've got a special person
18 here tonight that I understand is kind of retired.
19 He's kind of a public figure, if you want to call
20 him that. Buddy Samples is out there. He's one
21 of my friends. I call him a friend. He's got his
22 mafia with him, bodyguards. I did want to
23 recognize Buddy because in the West Brow community
24 they know the name, but they do not know what
25 Buddy has actually done over the years for West

1 Brow. And I know that I'm proud of him and I know
2 a lot of the community is proud of him and he's
3 been -- it's good to know Buddy, know him as a
4 friend. He's not going anywhere. I think he's
5 just shooting a line of bull to get a little pity,
6 but he says he's retiring, but I don't about that.
7 But what I'm getting, they're having a -- not a
8 benefit -- but actually a dinner to honor Buddy.
9 What is that date of that?

10 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: July 9th.

11 MR. RUMLEY: The 9th? Okay. And it
12 starts at seven?

13 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: 6:30.

14 MR. RUMLEY: 6:30?

15 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: 6:30.

16 MR. RUMLEY: And we ask all of you
17 can come out and pat Buddy on the shoulder or you
18 might slip him a hundred -- but anyway, no gift.
19 But anyway, we appreciate it.

20 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Charlie's
21 cooking.

22 MR. RUMLEY: Do what now?

23 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Charlie's
24 cooking.

25 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. That's a good

1 thing.

2 MR. LOWERY: Yeah.

3 MR. RUMLEY: At this time I'll
4 adjourn this meeting. If I hear a motion to
5 adjourn, that is, I mean. Let me call a motion. I
6 want to do this official. Do I hear a motion?

7 MR. LOWERY: I make a motion we
8 adjourn.

9 MR. RUMLEY: I do have a motion. Do
10 I hear a second?

11 MR. PITTMAN: I'll second.

12 MR. RUMLEY: Call the roll here. Mr.
13 Lowery?

14 MR. LOWERY: Yes.

15 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Cervelli?

16 MR. CERVELLI: Yes.

17 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Pittman?

18 MR. PITTMAN: Yes.

19 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Goff?

20 MR. GOFF: Yes.

21 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Rumley votes yes.
22 We are adjourned.

23 END OF MEETING
24
25

C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF TENNESSEE)

COUNTY OF HAMILTON)

I, DEADRA D. RAGSDALE, Court Reporter and
Notary Public, in and for Hamilton County and the
State of Tennessee at Large, do hereby certify that
I reported in machine shorthand the proceedings had
in the above-styled cause on the 2nd day of July,
2009;

That the said proceedings were reduced
to typewriting under my personal supervision; and
that the foregoing is a transcript of said
proceedings.

This is the 27th day of July, 2009.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Deadra D. Ragsdale".

Deadra D. Ragsdale
Notary Public
My commission expires
July 7, 2012